

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 HEW-04
AID-05 DIWY-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 EB-07 OIC-02
DHA-02 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 H-01 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 JUSE-00 /124 W
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DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS DEPT. OF LABOR, HEW AND AID

FOR IO/IWP

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SGEN, AORG, ECOSOC
SUBJ: 26TH RESUMED SESSION OF THE UN COMMISSION ON THE
STATUS OF WOMEN; ROUNDUP

REF: GENEVA 10022, GENEVA 10014

1. SUMMARY: RESUMED 26TH SESSION COMPLETED WORK WITH
SUBSTANTIAL RECORD OF PROGRESS ON DECADE PROGRAMS.
APPROVED RESOLUTIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS, MASS COMMUNICATIONS
MEDIA ON ATTITUDES TOWARD THE ROLE OF WOMEN, PROGRAM FOR THE
DECADE, PROJECT PROPOSALS, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD PLAN
OF ACTION AND DD II, EVALUATION OF IWY, STATISTICS, AND ON
IMPLEMENTATION OF DRAFT CONVENTION. ALSO COMPLETED DRAFT
CONVENTION FOR TRANSMITTAL TO ECOSOC AND GA. END SUMMARY.

2. RESUMED 26TH SESSION COMPLETED WORK ON DEC 17. SESSION
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MARKED BY HIGH DEGREE OF CONSENSUS WHICH PREVAILED ON MOST
ISSUES AND RESOLUTIONS WITH EXCEPTION OF US SPONSORED
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMUNICATIONS RESOLUTION. AGREEMENT ALSO
PREVAILED AMONG WEO'S ON STRATEGY, TACTICS AND ON
RESERVATIONS TO THOSE POSITIONS WHICH THE US COULD NOT
SUPPORT. US SUCCESS IN THIS RESPECT BELIEVED DUE TO

SERIES GENEVA MEETINGS HELD TO ALERT GOVERNMENTS TO US VIEWS PRIOR TO OPENING OF RESUMED SESSION. FRENCH POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS WAS SINGLE EXCEPTION. SWEDEN APPEARED LESS EAGER AND WILLING TO APPEASE OR COMPROMISE WITH THIRD WORLD. IN ONE INSTANCE, IT DRAGGED DENMARK ALONG IN SUPPORT OF US AMENDMENT TO ART. 21 OF CONVENTION. SWITCH MAY BE ATTRIBUTED TO NEW GOVERNMENT. SOME MODERATION IN MEXICAN APPROACH TO NIEW AND CERDS ALSO APPARENT AND MAY BE FOR SAME REASON.

3. COMMISSION MEMBERS EXHIBITED GREAT CONCERN IN FLOOR DEBATE OVER GA THIRD COMMISSION DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING TRANSFER OF COMMISSION SECRETARIAT TO VIENNA. REQUESTED AN EXPLANATION OF SECRETARIAT DECISION THAT THEY CONSIDERED UNWISE AND INAPPROPRIATE ON ADVENT OF DECADE OF WOMEN. HOWEVER, NO REPLY WAS PROVIDED BY SECRETARIAT. INABILITY TO OBTAIN NECESSARY INFO BY TELEPHONE WAS GIVEN AS REASON.

4. SEVEN RESOLUTIONS APPROVED. ALL BY CONSENSUS EXCEPT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMUNICATIONS. OTHER SUBJECTS TREATED VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE DECADE OF WOMEN: EVALUATION OF IWY (ECN6/L711) CONCERNING NATIONAL MECHANISMS TO OVERSEE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM FOR THE DECADE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FUTURE CONVENTION. US RESOLUTION ON THE DECADE AND RELATED QUESTIONS, INCLUDING TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES (ECN6/L684, REV. 1) REGARDING TRAINING FOR PREPARATION OF PROJECT PROPOSALS RECEIVED COMMENDATIONS AND WIDE ENDORSEMENT FOR PROGRAM OUTLINED. UN DECADE FOR WOMEN (ECN 6/696, REV. 1) REQUESTING THAT UN STATISTICAL COMMISSION IN COOPERATION WITH NATIONAL BODIES PROVIDE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MORE STATISTICAL DATA BY SEX ALSO WELL RECEIVED. REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF PROGRESS MADE UNDER, DD II, IDS, AND IN IMPLEMENTATION OF WORLD PLAN OF ACTION (ECN 6/L712) CONTAINED REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE SPECIAL KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE OF NGO'S TO EFFECT FULLEST POSSIBLE UTILIZATION OF THEIR SKILLS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF WORLD PLAN OF ACTION. RESOLUTION (ECN6/L717) ESTABLISHED PREPARATORY BODY OF 16 MEMBERS FOR WORLD CONFERENCE IN 1980 AND GAVE THEM AUTHORITY TO DETERMINE FUTURE PREPARATORY NEEDS. RESOLUTION ON COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING THE STATUS OF WOMEN (E/CN 6/686) RETURNED RIGHT TO REVIEW COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COMMISSION. US RES. ON INFLUENCE OF MASS MEDIA ON ROLES OF WOMEN AND MEN (ECN 6/690 REV 1) CALLED FOR SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR STUDY ON SUBJECT AND STIRRED WIDE INTEREST, SUPPORT AND FAVORABLE COMMENT.

5. THE RES. ON HUMAN RIGHTS COMMUNICATIONS WAS APPROVED OVERWHELMINGLY BY VOTE OF 14(US)-5(USSR)-5 IN WHICH THE

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES DESERTED THE SOVIETS AND JOINED WITH THE US AND WESTERN POWERS IN SUPPORT OF THE RESOLUTION. FOUR OF THE APPROVED RESOLUTIONS WERE BASED ON US DRAFTS THAT WERE HIGHLY COMMENDED DURING DEBATE FOR QUALITY AND IMPORTANCE OF CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORK OF THE SESSION (TOGO, UK, FRANCE, BELGIUM AND OTHERS).

6. USDEL BELIEVES THAT US RES. ON IMPACT OF THE MASS MEDIA PROVIDES NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR SIGNIFICANT US INITIATIVES IN AREA OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS THROUGH THE PROPOSED RAPPORTEUR STUDY AND US SPONSORSHIP OF SEMINAR OR CONFERENCE ON SAME SUBJECT PRIOR TO WORLD CONFERENCE IN 1980 WHERE IT WILL BECOME AN AGENDA ITEM.

7. THE DRAFT CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN WAS CONCLUDED WITH A MINIMUM OF POLITICIZATION IN AN ATTEMPT TO MAKE POSSIBLE WIDEST NUMBER OF RATIFICATIONS. ARTICLES 4 AND 21 PROVED TO BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MOST TROUBLESOME OF REMAINING ARTICLES AT THE RESUMED SESSION. IF SMALL NUMBER OF MODIFICATIONS CAN BE MADE IN THE SUBSTANTIVE ARTICLES WHEN TEXT IS PRESENTED TO THE ECOSOC AND THE GA, US RATIFICATION MAY WELL BE POSSIBLE. CATTO

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